



*News Release from*

**U.S. REP. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS  
U.S. REP. ROB SIMMONS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**SHAYS, SIMMONS CALL FOR STRONG CHEMICAL  
SECURITY PROVISIONS IN HOMELAND SECURITY  
APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

*Connecticut's Only House Homeland Security Committee Members Seek  
To Strengthen Security Of Chemical Facilities*

**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Reps. Christopher Shays (R-CT) and Rob Simmons (R-CT) – Connecticut's only members of the House Homeland Security Committee (HSC) – today called for strict chemical security provisions to be included in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act (H.R. 5441). Joining Shays and Simmons on the letter were fellow HSC members Curt Weldon (R-PA) and Dave Reichert (R-WA).

In a letter to Harold Rogers, Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security, the lawmakers requested two bipartisan amendments which passed the HSC to be included in H.R. 5441, one which gives states the authority to set stricter security standards and one which requires the use of less dangerous chemicals, also known as Inherently Safer Technologies (ISTs). The text of the letter follows:

*The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
B-307 RHOB  
Washington, DC 20515*

*Dear Hal:*

*We are writing to express support for including chemical security legislation in the conference report to H.R. 5441, the Fiscal Year 2007 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act.*

*We hope that if this legislation is attached to the conference report, you will include two bipartisan amendments that were adopted by voice vote during the Homeland Security mark-up of H.R. 5695, the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act, which greatly improved this legislation.*

*The first amendment explicitly gives states the authority to set stricter security standards than those in H.R. 5695, unless those rules "frustrate" the federal regulations. The amendment made clear that state environmental, health and safety requirements would not come under the bill's jurisdiction.*

*The second amendment gives DHS the authority to require the use of less dangerous chemicals, such as Inherently Safer Technologies (ISTs), at facilities determined to be a high risk, as long as it would "significantly" reduce the consequences of a terrorist attack and would not impair the business of a facility.*

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